

# LOCAL I-S NEWS

*for department store workers*

Vol. 3, NO. 10

264

JANUARY 1, 1952

*... and a VERY  
HAPPY NEW YEAR*

Intense pleasure and absolute amazement marked the reaction of every member of Local I-S who visited the Union's new headquarters at 209-7th Avenue.

Without exception each of the many hundreds who came to see themselves, admitted that they had never imagined that the new building could be so wonderful.

All that was missing in the early days was the professional guide's telephone as the officers and staff conducted tours through the expanded premises.

Many of those who have worked to build and strengthen the Local

over nearly thirteen years of existence, stood silent and unbelieving. Member William Atkinson summed it all up when he said, "I don't think any of us ever dreamed that we would arrive at this point. It is not long ago that we were forced to do without a full-time Union officer or staff. Today, in our leaders, in our staff, in our headquarters and in our contract, we can see the full results of the work and the sacrifice that went into building Local I-S. All of us, old and new members alike, have a Union we can be really proud of."

In a statement to the member-

ship, President Sam Kovenetsky and Vice Presidents George Gurian and Elizabeth Hammond said, "We congratulate every member of Local I-S on this very happy occasion. Only the strength and support of the entire membership has made possible the remarkable growth and advancement of our Union."

"We deeply appreciate the many wonderful things that have been said to us about the job that has been done. We can only say that it was done for the best members an organization could ever hope to have and that we sincerely urge every man and woman who be-

longs to Local I-S to use their new quarters well and often."

Despite the fact that for the first week following moving there were still painters, carpenters, electricians and other craftsmen putting finishing touches to the job, a wide variety of gay gifts began to arrive to adorn the individual offices. Many were accompanied by notes of good wishes and expressions of pleasure that at long last the dirt, noise and crowding of Thirty-Third Street has been left behind.

The first group to meet in the plush conference room was the Receiving Department's Shop Stew-

ards. To them the wonder of the place was that they could meet without the steady stream of traffic that continually interrupted their lunch hour sessions in the old building.

Individual members, conferring with their administrators, found to their joy that they could talk in quiet privacy and have their problems resolved in a fraction of the time that it took formerly.

Aside from the beauty and wonder of the place, all were agreed on one other thing — It's only a short walk to 290 — 7th Avenue and they are all coming often!

## **Extra Special Delivery Aided By Union Members**

Without a moment's fear of jurisdictional quarrel with professional delivery men, Local I-S Shop Steward Catherine Yanis (HDC), Tessie Lombardi, also of House-keeping, May Schmidt of the Electrical Department and Eddie Collins of 116 Department rushed to make a special delivery far in advance of the "promised date."

Each played a vital part in making possible the happy ending to the pre-Yule experiences of Mrs. Mary Hertrich who originally had nothing more than routine shopping scheduled for that day, but ended up by being one of the most eventful customers the big store ever had.

Mrs. Hertrich's calls of help first brought mother, grandmother and I-S Shop Steward Catherine Yanis to her side. Taking the situation in at a glance, Catherine called for additional aid. First came other Union members, then came the doctors. And before long a union shoelace was being used to tie an umbilical cord.

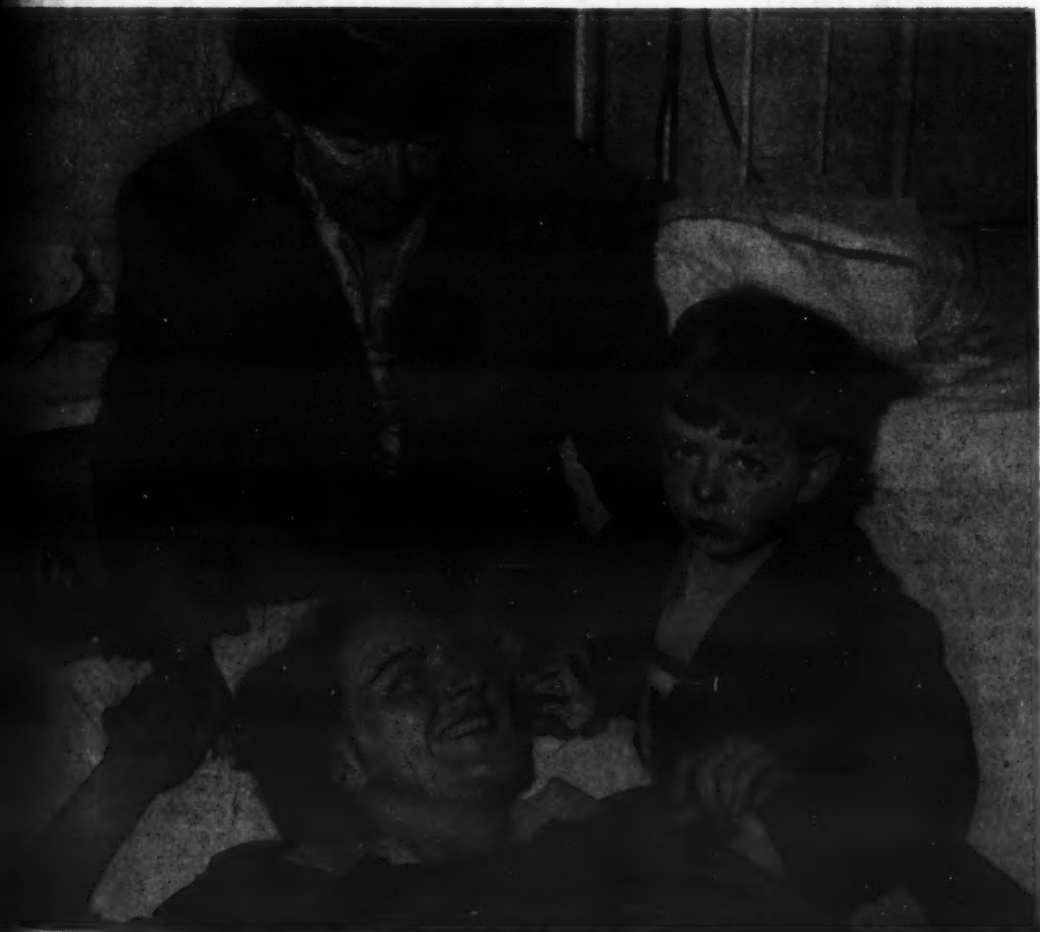
Before the commotion subsided, Basement Floor Committee Chair-

man Lou Cotti moved in with his guarantee that it was union labor that had been performed in the Union Shop. He bestowed an honorary membership in Local I-S on tiny Ann Macy Hertrich and thereby assured the Union of the distinction of having the youngest affiliate on record.

While all those who had a hand in the unexpected birthday party were feeling rightly pleased with themselves they were displeased with the veil of silence that had been wrapped around the role played by Union members.

They pointed to the fact that almost every paper that carried a story on the blessed event featured the work done by professionals and executives, but didn't breathe a word to show that members of I-S, as usual, were the first to provide the best of customer service.

Said Steward Yanis, "I can't say that it's all in a day's work, I can't even claim an inequality between my pay and a doctors'. But I can say that we were all on the job and did a good job and that we wish the best of luck to Mrs. Hertrich and her new daughter."



N.Y. Daily News Photo

Mother, son and relative rejoice at the special delivery of the bundle from heaven. Basement Chairman Lou Cotti rushed to make the baby an honorary member of I-S as other I-S'ers officiated.

## **Get Your Feb. 2nd Dance Tickets Today**



## BRANCH STORE NEWS



Dave Markowitz

Two columns ago I asked this question — who in Flatbush was secretly married? It raised a small barrage of questions and guesses as to the parties concerned. Sorry, but I still can't say who... Here is another "mystery" — someone in the store married a relative of a Flatbush employee. It looks like everyone is doing it secretly!... Does anyone have \$10 to give away?? I know of a very good place. It is good for two shares in the Local 1-S Credit Union — and it pays dividends... Lil Moskowitz is still out ill. Did anyone pay her a visit? Ellie Schneider became an aunt. Mazel Tov... Met Jerry Pinzer, formerly of Macy's, now of Bloomingdale. He asked to be remembered to all you nice people... So does Arne Hagler... Pat Sitzman (Slippers) was a temporary Xmas Sponsor... Belle Schepps is proudly announcing the engagement of her son... Who is the BTO (Big Time Operator) of the F9 Group — and it's not Hal Brink!... At last word, Tony Yesse is in Camp Pendleton with the U. S. Marine Corps... Fred Bohenberg should be in Alaska by now and thanking God for the guy who invented long johns. Buy your dance tickets NOW!

### FLATBUSH

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### WHITE PLAINS

Now that the madness of the holiday rush is over the tired and harrassed look on people's faces is disappearing — washed out partly by the joy of the holiday itself and partly by the knowledge that it won't be back for almost another year... As the press representative of the White Plains group I want to extend our season's greetings to all our 1-S brothers and sisters everywhere... Jackie Matt (Women's Dresses) was married on Christmas Day. Best of everything, Jackie... We were all glad to see Ruth Martens (Women's Accessories) when she came in for a brief visit recently. She expressed great joy over being a member of Local 1-S. The Health Plan and the Welfare Board are really tops in her book for the help and attention they gave... Sorry to report that Miss Greenough (Women's Dresses) is out ill... Clara Consentino is leaving her job in Women's Dresses to go to work for an insurance company. We all wish her success on her new job... All our Dance tickets have been distributed to the Shop Stewards and they are beginning to do a job in support of a really wonderful cause—our WELFARE BOARD. We're working at arranging car pools for February 2nd. If you have a car or will want a ride let your Steward know.



Terry Ciarlo

### PARKCHESTER



Georgine Staib

It finally happened! Katherine Hallihan, of our Store Committee, was finally presented with a dark-haired, blue-eyed grand daughter on December 6th. Congratulations!... We all ought to commend the Packing unit for its action back in November when they protested their attendance schedule. They won their point. Read about it in Grievance Roundup... A large number of inequalities were submitted by the time the December 1st cut-off date rolled around. It can only be hoped now that no one left himself out in the cold because he wasn't on time... Our Dance Tickets are all in the hands of the Shop Stewards. Buy at least one, preferably two or more and support our Welfare Board. Not only are we supporting a wonderful cause, but we can also be sure of a wonderful evening of entertainment and dancing at the Park Avenue Armory on the night of Saturday, February 2nd. Let's go down in a big group and really lift the ceiling off the Armory... As we were getting ready to go to press there were many people also getting ready to really step out and have fun at the Union's housewarming party. Advance reports said that the new place is really something to behold! Happy New Year.

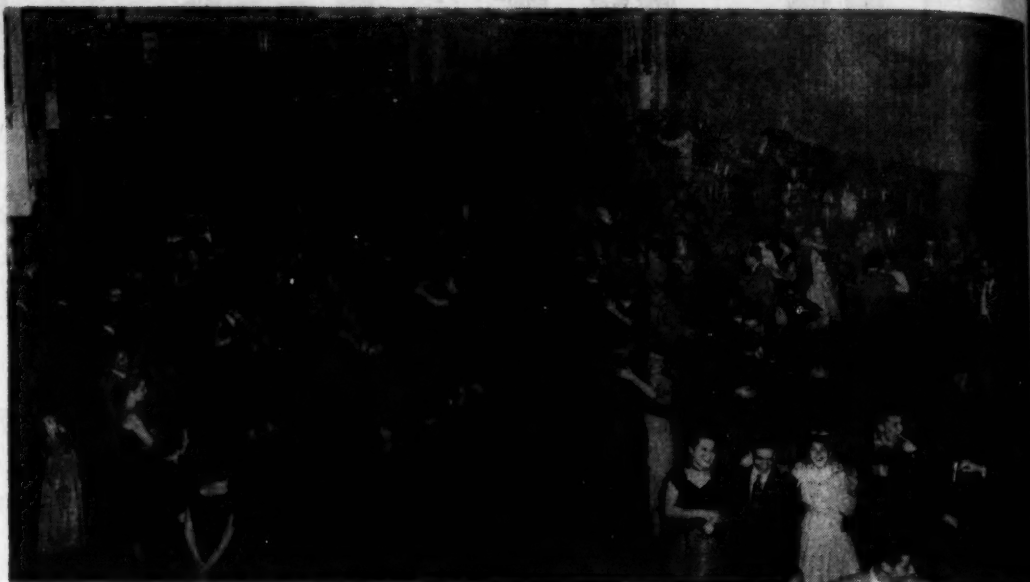
### JAMAICA

Steve Zieniewicz is back with us after a tour of duty with the Army. Steve left for service from J19, and thanks to the protection of our Union contract he returned to his old job... While Tom Byron was in town recently on a three week furlough he came back to work at his job in the Men's Wear department. Time was when a vacation was playtime, but apparently the high cost of living has even caught up with the men in uniform. But in any case it was nice having him back with us even for a visit... We all shared Shirley Peterson's (JKP) distress when she learned that after being out ill for six long months she must still remain away from work until her physical condition really permits her return. The Welfare Board is looking for some ways and means of being helpful. In the meanwhile we all extend our best wishes and hope that your recovery will be complete and speedy, Shirley... GOOD NEWS: Raymond Centola (Women's Shoes) has volunteered to serve as the Jamaica reporter starting with the next issue. To make sure that your department's news is well covered, be sure to keep in touch with Ray and keep him up to date on all developments. Buy Dance Tickets NOW!



Pat Favoino

## Departments Race to Hit 100% Mark In Sale of February 2nd Dance Tickets



Last year's dancers for the benefit of the Welfare Fund found that the Committee had left no stone unturned to provide the best in music and entertainment. This year promises to be still better.

A fast pace was set on the sale of dance tickets when, less than 24 hours after distribution, Francis Chase, Shop Steward of 41 Department turned in money on the first three tickets sold. Hard on her heels came 123 Department's Steward Irving Smooke with \$40.50 for 27 tickets. Close behind him came Max Kahn, 10 Department Steward, with \$22.50 paid on 15 tickets.

Word from all over the store and from the outlying stores was that tickets were in demand and selling fast. Many Floor Committee members were confidently predicting that the Welfare Fund Benefit Dance, set for Saturday evening, February 2nd would be a sellout by mid-January.

Best salesmen for the affair are the close to two thousand members and friends of Local 1-S who were present at last year's festivities. They are the people who know that nothing was spared to make the evening one of topnotch music and entertainment. They are the people who are talking up this year's bigger and better program and are credited with having stimulated the high degree of enthusiasm that marks the current drive.

Two bands and stellar entertainment will provide continuous fun and merriment from 9 p.m. on. The huge hall of the Park Avenue Armory at 34th Street and Park Avenue will be trimmed and decorated with the able assistance of Union members from the Display

Department. Next to Madison Square Garden, the Park Avenue address is the only one that provides enough space for the Local's members and friends who are expected to turn out in full force for a wonderful evening in support of a wonderful cause.

All proceeds of the dance will go to the Union's Welfare Fund which has, for many years, looked after the sick and needy of the Local. Tickets, priced at \$1.50, tax included, are in great demand. Most members regard the dance as an opportunity to both enjoy themselves and to show, in a practical way, that they solidly back their Union and its activities.

Don't forget the password to fun: GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

## 'Liz Hammond Donates 21st Pint to Bank

In addition to her outstanding record of consistent support to the Local 1-S Blood Bank, Vice President Elizabeth Hammond recently gave her twenty-first pint of blood to Red Cross drives for the armed forces.

When the Greater New York CIO Council called on its officers to give, Miss Hammond was among the first to respond. The other officers of Local 1-S who are not Council members were not asked to participate.

Miss Hammond explained her extreme generosity by saying, "a pint of blood is little enough to give when we know it will help to save a life — whether it is the life of a fighting man or of a union member on the home-front."

"As every member of our Union must already know, a blood bank is a wonderful form of insurance."

"I can only hope that each person, guided by his conscience, will answer the call when it comes — whether from Red Cross or from the Local 1-S Blood Bank. By pooling our resources we achieve security."

**FREE  
LEGAL AID CLINIC**  
Local 1-S Attorney  
Robert Silagi  
at the Union Office  
Every Wednesday  
5 to 7 PM

## Union "Services" to Expand With New, Larger Quarters

The many services that have come to mean so much to so many members of Local 1-S will be continued and new ones added now that additional space is available at the Union's new headquarters.

### Credit Union

Thanks to an efficient system of collectors throughout Herald Square and all the Branch Stores, the Credit Union is continuing its spectacular growth. New accounts are being opened daily, and there was no interruption, either for borrowers or depositors, during the moving period.

Union members who are not familiar with their Credit Union collector should ask their Shop Steward or Administrator for the name of the person responsible for their department.

### Library

The Local 1-S sub-station of the New York Public Library continues to offer members a wide choice of on-the-shelf fiction and non-fiction or a "special request" service.

Only membership in Local 1-S is required for the privilege of using this service.

### Legal Aid

Mr. Robert Silagi, attorney for Local 1-S, continues to offer free legal advice to Union members. The Legal Clinic is held at the Union office every Wednesday, from 5 to 7 p.m. Members with emergency problems requiring legal aid are advised to call the Un-

ion office at once.

### Administrators

The Administrative staff of the Union continues to be at the service of each and every member. While the men and women responsible for enforcement of the contract up to the third step are in the store almost constantly, it is still possible to arrange a meeting with them, either by seeing them in the store or by seeing the Administrator on duty at the Union office.

### New Ideas

In addition to these essential and valuable services made possible by Local 1-S, the Union's leaders are now turning their attention to other projects and programs which will be of interest to every member.

Among the ideas under consideration is the possibility of having a weekly "movie night" in the Union's new and large auditorium. If the present plans develop, such an evening would include a feature film and refreshments for a very low admission charge.

The aim of the program, as in the case of everything offered by the Union, is to meet a real need of the membership, at either no cost or the lowest possible cost. With the Local now settled in its new home, a rapid expansion of this program is possible — but its success now — as in the past — depends primarily on the support and use it gets from the members themselves.



## LOCAL 1-S NEWS

Published Twice Monthly by

LOCAL 1-S, UNITED DEPARTMENT STORE WORKERS OF AMERICA, C. I. O.  
290 Seventh Avenue New York 1, N. Y.

President: Sam Kovenetsky

1st Vice Pres.: George Gurian — 2nd Vice Pres.: Elizabeth Hammond

Editorial Board

Jerome Harte

Violet McMonagle

David Krakauer

Editor: Dick Pastor

## a grim joke

WE THINK THIS FARCE CALLED "price control" has gone too far. It makes us burn with anger and indignation when we repeatedly hear of additional price increases being granted manufacturers and retailers, while petitions for urgently needed wage increases are "studied" for months and then whittled down.

**THE WAGE EARNERS—THE WORKERS**—of our great country are being taken down the road that leads over the hill to the poorhouse by the scandalous policies of the industrialists who head government agencies responsible for holding the line on prices. The truth that only recently came to light was shocking confirmation of what workers and consumers have suspected for a long time. The Office of Price Stabilization has set ceilings that are even higher than the present all-time high prices now being charged! No sooner was that revelation made than it was announced that super-markets and manufacturers were asking for permission to once again hike their prices, despite the fact that their profits are still higher than ever in their histories.

**AND THERE IS NO END YET** in sight! While some spokesmen for government, labor and industry continue to cry of the horrors of inflation neither government nor industry appears willing to do anything to stem the rising tide. Official publications reveal in their statistics that the American worker is going deeper and deeper into debt and is less and less able to pay his way out. Some still stick to the phony line that high taxes are a compulsory "investment" that supports the government's "pay as you go" program of rearmament. But few are taking to heart the fact that the shrinking value of the dollar is making it impossible for the individual to pay as he goes!

**WE, THE VERY PEOPLE WHO ARE** being hardest hit by inflation have yet to give voice to our problems and our fears. We are willing to bet that there aren't many members of our Union who, in one way or another, have not been compelled to reduce their living standard. Less meat, or cheaper cuts—less money for the family clothing budget—inability to replace outworn household goods—less money for essential vacation rests—less money for entertaining at home or outside amusement—and less money for many other things. This is the way the belt tightening process begins. But who can say where it will end? When government officials feel compelled to defend their performance by denying that too much of the national wealth is going to butter instead of guns, we can begin to get an idea of the program to which we have been committed.

**EVEN SOME OF THE MORE RESPONSIBLE**, and conservative leaders of industry are beginning to speak out in favor of a reduction of the national budget for guns, planes and tanks. They rightly fear for the very life of our nation—destroyed, not by an enemy from without, but destroyed by making paupers of the American people. Destroyed, not by someone else's bombs, but by the cost of our own. There isn't a man or woman we know who is prepared to allow the destruction of our country in the name of defense!

**THERE ISN'T ONE AMONG US** who reads the newspaper reports of new record prices and profits without knowing full well that he is a victim of one of the grimmest jokes in American history. The current situation is almost without parallel. It is virtually impossible to find another occasion on which our government was so concerned with saving the rest of the world that our own country was moved with dizzying speed toward the horrible end of either a total "war economy" with almost no consumer goods production, or towards the horror and hunger of another depression!

**THE ONLY ANSWER TO THIS DILEMMA** is that we who work for a living must really be allowed to live! We must be able to earn and to buy according to the American standard, which has long been regarded as the highest in the world. We can only do this if we succeed in the fight for real, effective price control—**WITH ROLLBACKS TO BRING PRICES INTO LINE WITH PURCHASING POWER.** Remember, our food dollar is worth only 44 cents in terms of its value in 1939. We can best defend ourselves and our country by demanding an immediate end to the wage freeze and the restoration of free collective bargaining.

**WRITE TO YOUR CONGRESSMAN—WRITE TO PRESIDENT TRUMAN—TELL THEM WHAT YOU WANT AND NEED. TELL THEM THAT YOU MUST HAVE REAL PRICE CONTROL AND AN END TO THE WAGE FREEZE.**

**SPEAK UP NOW. YOU ARE FIGHTING FOR YOUR LIFE!**

## LETTERS to the EDITOR

To the Editor:

Note remarks lately in paper about DA's and wish to go on record that I like my DA for the simple reason I do not always have the cash in my bag, and when I see something that suits me I can get it at a discount and without paying on the spot.

With identification cards only it also means the cash in your hand and out of your pocket.

I just want you to take this point into consideration. Wouldn't want employee DA's abolished.

Sincerely,  
Edna Drummond, W5

To the Editor:

I want to express my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Welfare Board for their lovely card and gift they sent me while I was in the hospital. It is a real nice feeling to know that you belong to such a fine, thoughtful Union which is always ready to help you whether in health or sickness. And it is a comfort to know that you have a Health Plan, and a Blood Bank to back you when you need it.

I also want to thank all my co-workers for their kind feeling toward me by visiting me at the hospital and at home and sending me so many get-well cards, flowers and gifts.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. R. Kopleff, T62

To the Editor:

I want to thank Local 1-S for the check I received when my daughter was in the hospital. It came in very handy and was a great help.

Thank you all again,  
Sincerely yours,  
Margaret Dunscomb, P2

START THE  
NEW YEAR RIGHT  
PAY YOUR DOLLAR\*  
FOR YOUR 1952

Subscription to  
LOCAL 1-S NEWS  
NOW  
AT THE UNION OFFICE  
290 Seventh Ave.

\*as required by the  
Local 1-S Constitution

## let's hear

Every aspect of Union life is of direct concern to every member. We would like to hear from you. We would appreciate comments, suggestions and criticism.

The Local 1-S NEWS will make as much space available as may be needed to publish any communication designed to help further strengthen our Union.

We would also like to know what you think of your Local 1-S NEWS. Is it bringing you the news which interests you? Are there features, such as movie reviews, recipes, fashion news, etc. that you would like to see? What types of stories do you read in every issue? What don't you read at any time?

As has been said so many times in so many different ways "Local 1-S is YOUR Union!" Your opinions and desires are important. So let us hear from you. What's on your mind?

CONGRESSMAN DRIPP

By YOMEN



"I need a bigger allowance since you voted for those phony controls!"

## ADDRESS UNKNOWN

Important Union mail addressed to the following members has been returned by the Post Office for a better address. If your name appears below, please phone or visit the Union office at once. If any of these people work near you, please call their attention to this matter:

Kennon, George  
Kropas, Helen  
Swittken, Sandra  
Dendler, Ralph  
Konstant, Jack  
Kennedy, Louis  
Kropp, Barbara  
Kretzman, Shirley  
Krajewski, Helen  
Klecak, Vivian  
Lipton, Berenice  
Laffey, Raymond  
Leaman, E.  
Langan, James  
Lieberman, Morris  
Lyons, Helen  
Lockner, Barbara  
La Marcia, Casper  
Langeri, V.  
Lack, Anita  
Lutman, Shirley  
Lyles, Arlene  
Liebe, C.  
Lasker, Josephine  
Lebowitz, Loretta  
La Polla, Fannie  
McLeish, Alison  
Mahler, Joan  
MacPherson, Agnes  
McGee, Eileen  
Mendez, H.  
Margulies, K.  
Mannetti, Lena  
Mott, Jacqueline  
McElroy, R.  
Markarian, Charlotte  
Mielman, Howard  
McDonnell, John  
Merra, Constance  
Meyers, Marion  
Michael, Sol  
Melkonian, Michael  
Merlino, Mgt.  
McCorkell, H.  
Magidson, Herma  
Masia, Stella  
Muller, Anne  
Mele, Anna  
Northern, Mgt.  
Novatt, G.  
Napodano, Victoria  
O'Leary, A.  
O'Dea, Daniel  
O'Connor, Patrick  
Porvecca, Angie

Pollack, Melvin  
Procacci, Nicoletta  
Penn, Fannie  
Palcios, Mary  
Perfit, Rhoda  
Palladino, Marie  
Provekitas, C.  
Patey, Patricia  
Pease, Pearl  
Prestigiacomo, R.  
Pasini, Cesarina  
Pryce, Celestine  
Pitluck, Felicia  
Polk, Jenny  
Quinn, Thomas  
Raymundo, Renaldo  
Rosenberg, Sally  
Rubino, Rosemarie  
Russelli, Frances  
Ruggiero, Beatrice  
Robertazzi, Dolores  
Raver, Shirley  
Roberts, William  
Rosenfield, Samuel  
Rolphken, Miriam  
Rapelye, Eliz.  
Richardson, Edward  
Riedl, Helen  
Reichard, Julius  
Rosenfeld, E.  
Rosenberg, Samuel  
Romaine, Ernest  
Ryan, Richard  
Ravells, Hannah  
Sielizio, Marty  
Sands, Samuel  
Sheridan, Barbara  
Sinder, Ned  
Schwartz, Robert  
Sidoli, Carole  
Stringham, Jane  
Stern, Evelyn  
Schik, Sophie  
Spitzer, Phylis  
Stock, George  
Seputo, Marie  
Schwartz, Barbara  
Silverstein, Rose  
Sutton, Linda  
Silver, Marjorie  
Schwing, Elizabeth  
Smut, Marion  
Strumph, Frances  
Simonovitch, Mary  
Serano, Carmen  
Scapeliato, Mary  
Snyder, F.  
Schneider, Eleanor  
Sarfo, Genevieve  
Shaw, F.  
Silver, Marjorie  
Spitaleri, Rosemarie  
Seltzer, Sara  
Simonelli, Pasquale

JAN 1952

XUN



# Cafeteria Service Shows Slight Gain

By what may be nothing more than curious coincidence, cafeteria conditions began to show a decided change for the better at just about the same time that the last issue of Local 1-S NEWS reported the formation of an Executive Board committee charged with seeking reforms in the operation of the 8th Floor eatery.

Numerous reports came back to us during the bonus period that indicated that management was attempting to reduce the long, slow-moving lines, by having crews of executives on hand to urge people to "keep moving" into all four units.

While there was considerable enthusiasm for the results thus obtained on the short-term basis, there was a greater degree of doubt that the company would pay an equal amount of attention to the problem on a year-round basis.

Past experience has already demonstrated that management's primary concern is not with the eating comfort of the workers, but with avoiding late returns to the job. During the peak of the holiday season it made good sense to use all four units which provided faster moving lines and at the same time enabled management to stick to the schedule.

Despite the many favorable comments made on the efficiency of the "traffic control," there were many indications that other cafeteria



The fight for a decent meal without long delays is, like the picture, an old story. The maintenance of Union standards behind the counter and in the kitchen have helped. Progress on other fronts can be made with the cooperation of all. Send your comments to your I-S NEWS.

conditions remained unchanged and unimproved.

One of the most frequently heard complaints is that portions are still too small and prices too high. The idea that the employee cafeteria is supposedly operated on a non-profit basis is laughed at by

almost every worker questioned.

Said one worker who was interviewed, "I know for a fact that it is different in the warehouse cafeteria. You get more food for less money there." A bystander added, "I'll bet the warehouse cafeteria operates at a loss, Herald Square

makes a profit and the company averages the two to show that it's a 'non-profit' set up. It may be good business for Macy's, but it doesn't make good meals for us!"

Although spokesmen for the company have, on many occasions and in many ways hinted that they were dissatisfied because of the relatively few who use the cafeteria, they have given no sign of taking to heart any of the comments, criticisms or suggestions made by the people themselves. As far back as April 15, 1950 the Local 1-S NEWS interviewed workers and asked them what they thought of the cafeteria service and prices.

At that time it was clearly said and often repeated that "I would eat there if I got a square meal at a fair price." Others complained then, as they frequently have, about long lines and other delays.

Prices have gone up several times since the Spring of 1950. Portions in many cases have gotten smaller. All we can say is that for Christmas the lines moved faster, people ate faster and returned on time. For reasons of comfort and relaxation the people like the faster service and hope they can get twelve months of the year while the fight for other improvements goes on.

## Grievance Roundup: Reinstatement, Re-Scheduling Won In Branch Stores

Union members at Jamaica are proudly holding their heads up high following a successful battle with protection and management.

Protection found that it had one of the toughest cases on its hands when it attempted to put the finger on Union member Ed Thomason (Porter) for violation of "rules and regulations."

Almost immediately after the accusation became known, the Jamaica Store Committee consisting of Chairman Anthony LaSalvia, Vice Chairman Charles Metz and Secretary Virginia Braunberg — along with rank and file members, were up in arms. They knew, based on long association and a knowledge of the facts, that the charge could not be true. Their response was an intensive investigation and a flood of members to the store manager's office with testimonials on Ed's behalf and demands that the company drop the charges.

As hearings on the facts began it fell to Administrator Pat Favoino, the Store Committee and other members, to expose in cross examination, the weakness of Protection's case and claim.

As the Union fought to save an honest man's job and reputation it showed that the accusation was not supported by the facts. While management tried to argue that Thomason had to be bound by his signed "confession" they tried to plead that a false statement signed by their own agent was the result of a typographical error. When they argued that Thomason knew what he was signing, the Union was able to prove beyond doubt that he can scarcely read a line without his glasses and that he did not have them on at the time of his interrogation.

As Union representatives pressed each advantage, management's position became more and more im-

possible. The continuing flood of members to the manager's office kept a steady pressure on him to join in the search for the truth — not merely for vindication.

When the Union's members and leaders had finished their work, they had thoroughly demolished the case and claims that had been made by protection.

With good grace and full respect for the truth and a job well done, the Jamaica Store Manager came to completely exonerated Thomason and, in the midst of a crowded selling floor, told him he was glad to have him back.

Every person who had anything to do with bringing the case to its successful conclusion feels proud to have been associated with it. As for Ed Thomason himself, there weren't words enough to express his gratitude and devotion to the Union.

He was returned to work just one week after the charge had been levelled against him. As was to be expected, he suffered no loss in pay and his reputation remains spotless.

Back in the now distant days of the holiday rush and late schedules a group of women packers in Parkchester proved that they know their rights under the Union contract.

When their executive came to them and handed them a schedule of alternating late and early days (arrived at without consulting the parties involved) they flatly refused to initial the sheets and

rejected the entire schedule.

Shop Steward Grace Clauter filed a written grievance, but still got "No" for an answer from the insistent supervisor. When the Store Committee and the Administrator took it up to the Store Manager they found that management had profited by the remarks and discussion over the first schedule. Before they could even present the grievance the company submitted a new schedule that proved acceptable to each and every department member.

Said Administrator Andy Felicia, "the spirit the Packing people showed should serve as a lesson to both management and every Union member. Let's not forget that overtime, too, is on a voluntary basis. Thanks to the Union contract, we are free to make up our own minds. It's time that every company executive was informed of that fact and acted accordingly."

### HEALTH PLAN NOTE

If you plan to take a leave of absence for more than 30 days or if you leave the store and wish to continue your Health Plan coverage on a direct payment basis YOU MUST see the Local 1-S Health Plan Consultant at the Union office within 30 days from the end of the month in which you leave the store. Protect yourself — protect your family — protect your benefits. Be sure to come to the Union office on time!

### DON'T FORGET

#### THE UNION'S NEW ADDRESS

290 — 7th AVENUE, BETWEEN 26th and 27th STREET  
THE NEW PHONE NUMBER IS WATKINS 4-4540

clip this box and save it for future reference

### OFFICIAL NOTICE

#### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

TUESDAY—JANUARY 8th—7 P. M.

MANHATTAN CENTER

(34th St. and 8th Ave.)

ADMISSION BY 1951 OR '52 UNION CARD ONLY

Constitutional Assessment of \$2 For Unexcused Absence

## PERSONALS

FOR SALE—Combination oil burner and cooking range. Phone Mr. Ziccardi, EV 4-0833 at any time.

LOST—Hamilton wrist watch on 4th or 5th Floor Herald Square store. Reward. Call G. Koch, Ext. 2538.

FOR SALE — Studio couch with slip cover, \$40. Philco radio, table model, \$12. Metal utility cabinet 7½' x 3', \$12, 3' x 2½', \$5. Phone OR 9-0860 after 6 p.m.

MEDICAL PLAN — for the name and address of the doctor nearest you CALL the Union Office — WA 4-4540 or Associated Physicians Medical Group — BU 8-4296 (Night or Day). Complete schedule of fees available upon request.

BLOOD BANK — If you need blood from the Blood Bank CALL Elizabeth Hammond at the Union Office — WA 4-4540.

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